

State of California—Health and Human Services Agency

Department of Health Services



ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER
Governor

May 1, 2007

Dear Health Care Provider:

I am writing to inform you that the California Women, Infants and Children (WIC) Supplemental Nutrition Program will implement a new infant formula rebate contract with Mead Johnson Nutritionals on August 1, 2007. WIC will provide the following Mead Johnson standard infant formulas to participants without a prescription:

<u>Cow Milk-Based</u> Enfamil LIPIL with Iron Enfamil LactoFree LIPIL

Enfamil Gentlease LIPIL Enfamil AR LIPIL

Soy-Based Enfamil ProSobee LIPIL

Mead Johnson's Enfamil Gentlease LIPIL will replace Nestle Good Start Supreme as the partially hydrolyzed protein formula provided by WIC. We will continue to provide other formulas for medical conditions using our established procedures which are outlined on the enclosed handout. Health insurance, such as Medi-Cal, is the primary payer for special formula to treat a diagnosed medical condition. As a service, WIC will provide these formulas on a temporary basis while your patients complete the Medi-Cal application and enrollment process.

We realize this change can be difficult for all concerned. However, having an infant formula rebate enables the WIC Program to provide nutrition services and nutritious foods to 350,000 additional California participants each month, 23 percent of which are infants. We appreciate anything you can do to help us make this a smooth transition.

Thank you for supporting WIC's transition to Mead Johnson Nutritionals' standard infant formulas. If you have questions about a specific patient's needs, you can speak with a WIC dietitian by contacting a local WIC agency in your area. You can find the phone number of a local WIC agency at www.wicworks.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Original signed by Michele Y. Van Eyken

Michele Y. Van Eyken, R.D., M.P.H. Deputy Branch Chief Women, Infants, and Children Supplemental Nutrition Branch

Enclosure